

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission**  
**Rules Committee Meeting**  
**March 6, 2018 at 10:00 A.M.**

Delaware Department of Agriculture – Conference Center  
Dover, DE

In Attendance:

Mark Davis, Executive Director	Beth Steele, DHRC Chairman
	George Staats, Commissioner

Dover Downs Vice President of Racing Charles Lockhart, Harrington Raceway General Manager Jim Boese, Harrington Raceway Asst. GM Matt Sparacino, Harrington Facilities Manager Karen Kraft, DSOA Executive Director Sal DiMario and Dan Kazmaier.

*Minutes: Donna Krol*

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 10:06 a.m. Chairman Steele called the rules committee meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**Minutes:**

Minutes from the 1-16-18 Rules meeting were reviewed.

**Action Item:**

1. Continued conversation on 5.3 Trainer of Record. Mark Davis provided an updated definition for review:

Definitions:

**Trainer of Record** is an individual who receives any compensation, either directly or indirectly, for training the horse. The trainer(s) of record is the person or persons to whom trainer-related penalties shall apply in the event of a rule violation. In addition, there is a presumption that domestic partners that are individually licensed by the Commission will both be considered as trainer of record.

**5.3 Trainers**

**5.3.1.1 Eligibility**

5.3.1.1 A person shall not train horses, or be programmed as trainer of record at extended meetings, without first having obtained a trainer license valid for the current year by meeting the standards for trainers, as laid down by the United States Trotting Association, and being licensed by the Commission. ~~The "trainer of record" shall be any individual who receives compensation for training the horse.~~ The holder of a driver's license issued by the United States Trotting Association is entitled to all privileges of a trainer and is subject to all rules respecting trainers.

**5.3.1.2 Valid categories of licenses are:**

5.3.1.2.1 "A," a full license valid for all meetings and permitting operation of a public stable; and

5.3.1.2.2 "L", a license restricted to the training of horses while owned by the holder and/or his or her immediate family at all race meetings.

5.3.1.3 If more than one person receives any form of compensation, directly or indirectly, for training the horse, then the principal trainer or trainers must be listed as "trainer of record". It shall be a violation for the principal trainer or trainers of a horse not to be listed, as "trainer(s) of record", and, if such unlisted principal trainer or trainers are licensees of the Commission, then he, she, or they shall be subject to a fine and/or suspension, or revocation for such violation. In addition, it shall be a violation for a person who is not the principal trainer of the horse to be listed as "trainer of record", and such person shall be subject to a fine and /or suspension, or revocation for such violation. Principal trainer(s) and ~~programmed trainers~~ trainer(s) of record, and licensed unlisted person or persons acting as trainer(s) or "trainer(s) of record".

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission  
Rules Committee Meeting**

Continued....

shall be equally liable for all rule violations. For purposes of this rule, the ~~Steward~~ and judges shall use the following criteria in determining the identity of the principal trainer or trainers of a horse:

5.3.1.3.1 The identity of the person who is responsible for the business decisions regarding the horse, including, but not limited to, business arrangements with and any payments to or from owners or other trainers, licensed or otherwise, veterinarians, feed companies, hiring and firing of employees, obtaining workers' compensation or proof of adequate insurance coverage, payroll, horsemen's bookkeeper, etc.;

5.3.1.3.2 The identity of the person responsible for communicating, or who in fact does communicate, with the racing secretary's office, stall manager, association and track management, owners, etc. regarding racing schedules and other matters pertaining to the entry, shipping and racing of the horse;

5.3.1.3.3 The identity of the person responsible for the principal conditioning of the horse;

5.3.1.3.4 The identity of the person responsible for race day preparation including, but not limited to, accompanying the horse to the paddock or ship-in barn, selection of equipment, authority to warm up the horse before the public, discussion with the driver of race strategy, etc.; and

5.3.1.3.5 The identity of the person who communicates on behalf of the owner with the ~~Steward~~, judges and other Commission personnel regarding the horse, including regarding any questions concerning the location or condition of the horse, racing or medication violations, etc.

After discussion it was decided to have Andrew Kerber and Mark Davis to completely rework this section of the DHR Rules. We have been trying to retrofit a fix and instead need to rewrite to the entire section. An additional Rules Meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2018.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Rules Committee Meetings are considered Public Meetings and will follow the same guidelines as public meetings including: agenda posted on State Calendar, minutes taken during the meeting, approved at the next Rules Meeting and posted on State Calendar.

**CLOSE OF MEETING:**

With no further business to discuss Chairman Steele entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion was carried by Mark Davis and seconded by Commissioner George Staats. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Next Rules Meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2018